



"Math Day" Takes Place for Grades 6 & 7 – 4/25/12



Brandon Senecal shows his excitement for Math!

Our 6th and 7th graders recently enjoyed "Math Day" at the IES! Students engaged in a variety of fun and motivational activities designed to provide a final review of key concepts prior to MCAS testing! In grade 7, students worked with **Mr. Paul Bolio** on specific types of MCAS questions, including multiple choice, open-response, and short-answer questions, focusing on "Trapezoids," as well as other topics.



In **Mrs. Ellen Reber's** classes, students reinforced their knowledge of "Integers" utilizing Spanish, and also worked on word problems. **Ms. Sharon Fogarty** reviewed with the students several helpful strategies for breaking down open-response questions utilizing highlighters, and shared helpful tips for how to answer these questions successfully.



Joseph Skowronski, Jared Keeman, and Dominic DeSimone

In **Mrs. Debbie Simonelli's** classes, students "dined out" with their friends at several favorite restaurants, including *Junior's* or *Olive Garden*, and then calculated their bill, tax, and tip. **Mrs. Rachel Usher** worked with students in her classes on the meanings of 25 geometry vocabulary words, as students reviewed the definitions and put into "Foldables," with illustrations. Finally, **Mrs. Judith Deary** worked with her students in the computer lab on sample MCAS questions, as well as the *WPI ASSISTments* program.



Peyton Young and Sydney Hurteau



"Math Day" Takes Place for Grades 6 & 7 – 4/25/12 (cont.)

In grade 6, students enjoyed participating in *Probability Place* in **Ms. Megan Towle's** classes. Students were given a lesson on how to express the probability of an event occurring in a simple experiment as both a fraction and as a percent. Students then rotated through four stations finding the probability of rolling a particular number on a die, randomly picking a vowel from the letters in the word Massachusetts, landing on a particular area of a spinner, and picking a certain color tile out of a bag of tiles. At each station they calculated the probability of a particular event and then tested that probability. In **Mrs. Kathleen Hayes'** classes, students enjoyed a *Data Dock* lesson, in which they had to apply the concepts of mean, median, mode, and range on a short review worksheet. Students then created their own data by recording the number of jumping jacks that they could do in 90 seconds. They organized this data into a stem & leaf plot and then measured its central tendencies (mean, median, mode, & range). In *MCAS Central*, **Mrs. Tracey Zuliani** broke students up into teams to compete in a Jeopardy review game containing questions taken directly from MCAS. Questions were answered by all students, and the team with the highest percentage of correct answers was awarded the points. The team that won the question then led a discussion explaining how they came to their answer. **Mrs. Karen Cristian** did a lesson entitled *Measurement Mall*, in which students worked in pairs, using their MCAS reference sheet as they rotated through four stations measuring 2- and 3-dimensional figures. Students measured and then used the appropriate formula to find area, surface area, perimeter, circumference, and volume. Finally, in the *Function Fair*, **Mrs. Susan Chupka** gave the students a short lesson on "Functions" (simple input/output tables). Students solved two riddles that required them to determine the relationship between the input (x - value) and the output (y- value) and find the pattern (called the rule). Students worked in pairs to create their own functions and presented them to the rest of the class. The rest of the class worked to find the "rule" or the pattern of the function. We thank **Mr. Bolio** and **Mrs. Zuliani** for creating and planning the activities for Math Day, and the entire **Sixth and Seventh Grade Teams** for all of their help!